Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

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RE: Docket Nos. 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

To Whom It May Concern:

The best way to reduce salmonella in eggs is to stop the forced molting practice. These hens are deprived of food, water and kept in the darks for weeks. This throws the hens immune system off and contaminates the eggs. So, it really is useless to treat these poor animals in such a cruel manner. Not only are they sick, fragile and frightened, but the eggs are no good either. What purpose does this serve?

Instead of putting warning labels on egg cartons on how to handle the eggs and regulate temperatures maybe there should be a label stating "these eggs were produced by Forced Molting."

Please help elimate this practice and at the same time your salmonella problems will be reduced greatly.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tracy M. Meadows

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ **€778**

97P-0197/ C779 96P-0418/ C778 See File Number: